

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-07 EUR-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00

AID-05 /104 W

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P 151451Z JUN 77

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2218

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 3287

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: MASS, CG, MO

SUBJECT: POST-INVASION REFORM IN ZAIRE

REF: (A) STATE 135717, (B) RABAT 3228, (C) STATE 134825

1. ON EVE OF PRESIDENT MOBUTU'S ARRIVAL IN MOROCCO JUNE 14, I CALLED ON FOREIGN MINISTER LARAKI TO DISCUSS ZAIRE IN ACCORDANCE WITH MOST HELPFUL GUIDANCE IN REFS A AND C. I RECALLED (A) ZAIRIAN FOREIGN MINISTER NGUZA'S COMMENT TO ME ON MAY 27 THAT WITH WAR AT AND END, ZAIRE'S FOCUS WOULD NOW TURN TO ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL QUESTIONS, AND (B) MFA SECRETARY GENERAL EL IRAQUI'S COMMENTS SAME DAY THAT MOROCCAN AND SAUDI AID TO ZAIRE WOULD HAVE TO BE CONDITIONED ON REFORMS IN ZAIRE (RABAT 2936). I THEN MENTIONED THAT IN VIEW OF OUR INCREASINGLY CLOSE CONSULTATIONS ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND OTHER AREAS OF MUTUAL INTEREST, SECRETARY WISHED KING HASSAN TO HAVE OUR RECENT VIEWS ON POST-INVASION REFORM IN ZAIRE, THINKING THIS MIGHT BE USEFUL IN LATTER'S TALKS WITH MOBUTU.

2. IN MAKING THE POINTS CONTAINED IN DEPTELS, I OUTLINED OUR INTENTION TO DISCUSS OUR MILITARY AID PLANS AND REFORMS WITH ZAIRIANS, OUR HOPE THAT GOM COULD EXERT PARALLEL EFFORT, AND OUR
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VIEW THAT SIGNIFICANT REFORMS ARE NECESSARY IF ZAIRE WERE TO AVOID A REPETITION OF THE SHABA INVASION, UNDERLINING SPECIAL IMPORTANCE WE ATTACHING TO IMF STABILIZATION PROGRAM. I REQUESTED MOROCCAN THINKING ON EXTENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE DECENTRALIZATION DESIRABLE IN ZAIRE, AND ALSO ASKED WHETHER MOROCCO WOULD BE PREPARED TO SECOND ECONOMIC ADVISERS. TO ENSURE THAT POINTS REACHED KING SAME EVENING, I LEFT INFORMAL FRENCH LANGUAGE

SUMMARY OF MY PRESENTATION. LARAKI READ THE SUMMARY, EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR SECRETARY'S TIMELY INITIATIVE IN SENDING HIS VIEWS, AND SAID THEY WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL TO THE KING.

3. LARAKI ASKED ME TO INFORM THE SECRETARY THAT DURING HIS MISSION TO ZAIRE LAST MONTH, HE HAD HAD A LONG TALK WITH MOBUTU ABOUT THE NECESSITY FOR REFORMS. CITING LENIN'S ADAGE THAT IT SOMETIMES NECESSARY TO TAKE ONE STEP BACKWARD IN ORDER TO TAKE TWO FORWARD, LARAKI TOLD MOBUTU THAT WHILE SHABA VICTORY HAD BEEN A STEP BACKWARD FOR SOVIETS, ZAIRE NOW NEEDED TO CREATE INTERNAL CONDITIONS WHICH WOULD PREVENT THE SOVIETS FROM TAKING TWO STEPS FORWARD. HE BELIEVED MOBUTU GOT THE MESSAGE.

4. MOROCCO, LARAKI CONTINUED, THUS HAD EXACTLY THE SAME CONCERNS AS THE U.S. MOROCCAN VIEW WAS THAT EXTENSIVE ADMINISTRATIVE, MILITARY, AND SOCIAL REFORMS WERE ESSENTIAL. MOROCCO IS PREPARED TO HELP IN ADMINISTRATIVE AREA AND FINANCIALLY. BEFORE COMMITTING ITSELF, HOWEVER, GOM WANTED TO RECEIVE A DETAILED PLAN FROM ZAIRIANS ON INTENDED REFORMS, SO THAT GOM COULD DETERMINE JUST HOW IT COULD BE MOST HELPFUL.

5. LARAKI CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT KING HASSAN NOW INTENDED TO PURSUE DISCUSSION OF REFORM DIRECTLY WITH MOBUTU, AND THAT THERE WOULD PROBABLY BE AT LEAST THREE MEETINGS BETWEEN THE TWO CHIEFS OF STATE FOCUSING PRINCIPALLY ON THIS SUBJECT.
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